

1 July 1954

Memorandum for the Record

Subject: Conversation with Messrs. Arens and Schroeder, of the staff of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee.

1. I talked today with Messrs. Arens and Schroeder regarding their request for a CIA witness, or witnesses, in connection with their hearings on the Mexican Wetback situation. The purposes of their hearings are set forth in the attached letter from Senator McCarran to Chairman Jenner of the Internal Security Subcommittee. Our interest lies in item No. 3 of the letter, and the request for testimony deals largely with the situation in Mexico as directed toward the United States border. The hearings are scheduled to start on 15 September (Senators McCarran and Welker forming the Task Force), and the Committee staff is anxious to start preparing all phases of their case as soon as possible. They feel that the only CIA testimony which would be of value to them would be public testimony. The FBI will not furnish them any witnesses.
2. The points of interest which they have indicated to me include testimony on Mexico as a focal point for Communist operations against the United States, and in particular through the use of the Wetbacks in border crossings. Their information indicates that the Soviet have nets operating against us from across the border, with rendezvous in Arizona. They also have an interest in Toledano's activities, and in particular his use from Mexico of a pipeline through the mine, mill and smelter workers' union.
3. They are further interested in Communist efforts in Mexico to propagandize the Wetbacks before they come over the border, as well as any liaison between the Soviet and Satellite Embassies on the one hand and other organizations in Mexico which send the Wetbacks in. In addition, they are interested in any transmittal to the Wetbacks of money for operations against the United States.

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